

News from Around the Bay

What do you mean, "Our Ranch?" Where do WE have a ranch? Well, let me tell you about "Our Ranch."

In the beginning, once upon a time, a long time ago, there was a ranch at Stinson Beach which was under consideration for development. Several concerned citizens banded together and formed a coalition determined to preserve the property. The biggest concern was the grove of trees that provided the nesting site for the herons and egrets that came each year. These courageous people fought the system and "big bucks" and raised a considerable sum of the money on their own to purchase the ranch. During the fund-raising, they contacted the National Audubon Society for financial aid, which was denied. So, they turned to the local chapters of NAS. These Bay Area chapters, Golden Gate, Sequoia, and Marin, contributed and became sponsors for the ranch. They were joined by Madrone a few years later. In honor of this assistance, the ranch became known as Audubon Canyon Ranch, or ACR.

As more properties were added to the organization, it was determined that the corporate name should become Audubon Canyon Ranch, Inc., and each property would have its own name. Now, ACR, Inc., includes Bolinas Lagoon Preserve in Stinson Beach, Cypress Grove Preserve in Marshall, and Bouverie Preserve in Glen Ellen. Other properties and sanctuaries are located in the Tomales Bay area and include Tom's Point and Hog Island. Each sponsoring Audubon chapter has three members on the ACR Board of Directors. Chapters are requested to provide weekend hosts at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve during the nesting season that runs from March 16 to July 14.

So, there it is in a nutshell -- the relationship of the Bay Area Audubon chapters to ACR, Inc. You and your guests are welcome at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve any weekend during "the season." Cypress Grove Preserve is devoted to research and open by appoint-

ment only. There is an Audubon Chapter Day at Bouverie Preserve in May for which you sign up in your chapter. You are welcome to attend the Guided Nature Walks at Bouverie (the next dates are March 2 and 16; April 6 and 20; May 4 and 25), but you must call (707) 938-4554 to RSVP. Space is limited and fills up fast.

In addition, Ranch Guides are available at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve on the weekends to answer questions and help visitors at the ponds and on the trails, especially at the Overlook. Ranch Guides are dedicated ACR volunteers who have been trained in natural history, trail techniques, history and geology of Bolinas Lagoon area, bird anatomy, and behavior of herons and egrets, pond life, and plant identification and ecology.

If you are interested in spending more time in beautiful places, consider being part of the Harbor Seal research study. Contact Mary Ellen King, (707) 537-1546, for more information.

Mary Engebret

Golden Trout

Based at the 10,000-foot level in the southern Sierra Nevada near Mount Whitney, Golden Trout Natural History Workshops provide a special natural history adventure for individuals and families. These six-day workshops, originally run by a Southern California Audubon chapter and now under the auspices of a private non-profit corporation, are based at the Golden Trout Camp facility, a beautiful tent camp, and one of only a few such facilities remaining inside federally-designated Wilderness Areas.

This is an opportunity for the entire family to experience the remote high Sierra in the company of professional naturalist interpreters. Geared to the interests of adults and children alike, workshops offer a variety of daily hikes and activities within the Cottonwood Lakes basin and surrounding areas; evenings around the campfire include tales of local history and talks by special

guests. All meals and shelter are provided. Three six-day sessions are offered, from June 30, 1996, through July 20, 1996; enrollment is limited. To receive a brochure, write to: Golden Trout Natural History Workshop, Inc., Attn: Cindi McKernan, 1230 Friar Lane, Redlands, CA 92373, phone (909) 798-3060.

SFSU - Sierra Nevada Field Campus

The Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University, located alongside the scenic North Yuba River, provides an idyllic mountain forest setting for instruction and research in the environmental sciences and other creative disciplines. The nearby fresh-water marsh at Sierra Valley, the glaciated Lakes Basin, the snow-capped Sierra Buttes, and east-slope deserts provide a spectacular variety of organisms and geological features making these field courses an enriching and educational experience.

All courses are open to the general public and transferable college credit is available.

Course offerings cover such diverse subjects as "Fungi of the Sierra Nevada;" "Bird Identification by Song;" "Mammals of the Sierra Nevada;" "The Ecology and Conservation of California Bats;" and "Sierran Spiders and their Allies." Instructors include Luis Baptista, David Shuford and David DeSante, among others.

For a detailed course listing and other information, contact: Jim Steele, College of Science and Engineering, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94132-9987, (415) 338-1571 or (415) 738-1814



Loons to Ducks

At least one Yellow-billed Loon was seen again on February 10 (ADM) on Monterey Bay. The Laysan Albatross at Point Arena Cove, MEN, continued to be seen regularly throughout the month. Two others were seen on Monterey Bay on February 10 (ADM). Other sea-watching highlights during the month included a **Manx Shearwater**, 8-10 Flesh-footed Shearwaters, (the highest ever winter count), and 6 Short-tailed Shearwaters on Monterey Bay also on February 10 (ADM).

Two Trumpeter Swans were in Placer County on February 17 (TE), seen with a small flock of Tundra Swans and up to 5000 White-fronted Geese. Both birds had colored leg bands possibly indicating that they are birds from Summer Lake in Oregon. A "Bewick's" Swan, the Eurasian sub-species of Tundra Swan, was reported with a flock of 500 Tundra's on February 1, at the Holland Tract in Contra Costa (ADM).

As the month progressed, duck numbers began declining in the area with birds moving out, heading back to their breeding grounds. However, good numbers of Eurasian Wigeon, Oldsquaw and a few reports of Eurasian Green-winged Teal and Harlequin Duck continued from various coastal and San Francisco Bay locations. The male Tufted Duck in San Francisco remained throughout the month (joined by a female for a few days in the middle of the month), while two more remained in Sunnyvale, and another was found in Arcata, HUM, on February 8, the first record in nearly a dozen years (RS fide LL).

Raptors to Gulls

Swainson's Hawks continued in small numbers at the Holland Tract, CC, with up to 3 birds being reported throughout the month (SG).

The wintering Mountain Plovers in Yolo County peaked at 275 birds, the highest number reported there during this winter. After a quiet few months on the

shorebird front, a Lesser Yellowlegs and a hyperactive Ruff at the Crittendon Marsh, SCL, on February 11 (PJM) were a nice surprise. Both birds remained through the end of the month.

The **Lesser Black-backed** Gull overwintering in the San Francisco south bay was refound at the salt ponds at Alviso on February 7, where it was seen irregularly for a few days. It eventually found its way to the Warren Mitigation Ponds, ALA, from February 11 - 13 (RJR), providing the first Alameda County record for this species.

Other notable gulls included a likely first winter **Iceland Gull** at the mouth of Pilarcitos Creek in Half Moon Bay, SM, on February 3 (NL, AJ). There is not yet an accepted record of this species in California despite a number of prior sightings that seemed convincing; this sighting will surely add some further discussion to this issue. Reports continued throughout the month of single, mostly first-winter, Glaucous Gulls at various locations, and good numbers of Black-legged Kittiwakes continued offshore.

An early Caspian Tern was on San Francisco Bay off Coyote Point, SM, on February 25 (RSTh). A **Thick-billed Murre**, a basic plumaged bird, was off the wharves on Monterey Bay, MTY, from February 11 - 13, (RiT fide DR), the second occurrence of this species on Monterey Bay this winter.

Owls to Shrikes

An interesting record of Northern Saw-whet Owl was one at the Sutro Heights Park, SF, found February 7 (HF). This is thought to be the first record in over 10 years in San Francisco. Allen's Hummingbird numbers finally began building up to anticipated levels as the month progressed.

A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was found February 7 near Alviso, SCL (MR), and another was in the Carmel Valley, MTY, on February 11 (JM). The Eastern Phoebe remained in Bodega Bay and an

additional bird was found in Santa Cruz on February 11 (JM).

In Monterey, the **Dusky-capped Flycatcher** continued to be seen until at least February 21 at the Moonglow Dairy, while the San Francisco bird was last reported on February 20. Northern Shrike reports have been scarce all winter, and again this month only a single bird was reported, this time from the Butte Valley NWR, SIS, where they are to be expected, on February 14 (NW).

Warblers to Sparrows

Continuing over-wintering warblers included the Prairie Warbler at the Moonglow Dairy, MTY, through at least February 13, the Lucy's Warbler at Frenchman's Creek, Half Moon Bay, and another in Arcata, HUM, and the **Yellow-throated Warbler** in Lolita, HUM, which reappeared after a number of weeks' absence after first being reported in January. Other interesting warblers included 3 Palm Warblers, a Nashville Warbler and Northern Waterthrush in Arcata, HUM (RS fide LL), and a Black-and-White Warbler at the Phipps Ranch, SM (MH), and another at Owl Canyon, Bodega Bay, SON.

A single Harris's Sparrow continued throughout the month at Danville, CC, the only one remaining from the previous month.

Longspurs to Orioles

A group of longspurs found near Lincoln, PLA, on February 4 (TE), included 2 Chestnut-collared Longspurs, 2 to 3 McCown's Longspurs and up to four Lapland Longspurs. Most of these birds continued to be seen through at least February 20.

The long-staying **Rustic Bunting** near Hoopa, HUM, again remained throughout the month in the same general area as it has been throughout its tenure there. The Rusty Blackbird remained at the Phipps Ranch, Pescadero, SM, through the month. The **Common Grackle** found in early January at Point

Arena, MEN, was refound during the month and was seen at least until February 25 (M.Ob.). Some discussion as to Common vs. Great-tailed gives rise to the possibility of 2 birds. Finally an Orchard Oriole continued in Lolita, HUM, throughout much of the month.

The monthly observation column is generated from reports made to the Northern California Bird Box or to the author. Some sightings are unconfirmed and numbers of birds are often best regarded as estimates or "best guesses." In general, birds in boldface are very rare in our region, geographically or seasonally. Many of these are currently reviewed by the California Bird Records Committee (CBRC). Observers are encouraged to provide written and/or photographic documentation to the CBRC, c/o Michael Patten, P.O. Box 51959, Riverside, CA 92517-2959 for any species currently on the review list. A list of review species can also be obtained from the CBRC secretary at the address above.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Anthony Cermac, Josiah Clark, Luke Cole, Hugh Cotter, Jim Danzenbaker, Maya Decker, Gary Deghi, Al DeMartini, Todd Easterla, Alan M. Eisner, Gil Ewing, Mike Feighner, George Finger, Kathy Franccone, Harry Fuller, Arlene Gemmel, Steve Glover, Phil Gordon, Donna Heim, Kevin Hints, Alan S. Hopkins, Joan Humphrey, Al Jaramillo, Clay Kempf, Rick Lebadour, Rosalie Lefkowitz, Nick Lethaby, Leslie Lieurance, Cindy Lieurance, Steven Long, Mike Mammoser, Peter J. Metropolis, Mark Miller, Joseph Morlan, David Mortardi, Dan P. Murphy, David Nelson, Dan Nelson, Benjamin D. Parmeter, Roy Poucher, David Quaddy, Bob Reiling, Jean M. Richmond, Robert J. Richmond, Don Roberson, Mike Rogers, Steve Rottenborn, Jim Rowoth, Doug Shaw, Debra L. Shearwater, Dianne Sierra, Dan Singer, Dick Spight, Rich Stallcup, John Sterling, Kirk Swensen, Ed Tandelfino, Scott B. Terrill, Ronald S. Thorn, Larry Tunstall, Richard Turnello, Bruce Webb, Nick Whelan, Jerry White, Adam Winer, Dennis Wolff, Bob Yutzy.
Data thanks to the Northern California Bird Box.

Abbreviations for counties: ALA, Alameda; CC, Contra Costa; FRE, Fresno; HUM, Humboldt; MRN, Marin; MEN, Mendocino; MTY, Monterey; PLA, Placer; SF, San Francisco; SIS, Siskiyou; SM, San Mateo; SCL, Santa Clara; SON, Sonoma; YOL, Yolo

AOU Checklist Updates

A number of birders recently were able to increase their life lists by several species without leaving the comfort of their livingrooms. The 40th supplement to the AOU (American Ornithologists' Union) check-list has been published and includes a number of changes, summarized below, that affect North American birders.

Great Egret: changed to genus *Ardea*, becoming *Ardea alba*.

American Golden-Plover: species renamed, becomes *Pluvialis dominicus*.

Rufous-necked Stint: renamed Red-necked Stint

American Swallow-tailed Kite: renamed Swallow-tailed Kite

Common Black-headed Gull: renamed Black-headed Gull

Gilded Flicker: re-split from Northern Flicker to become separate species, *Colaptes chrysoides*.

Eurasian Skylark: renamed Sky Lark

Scrub Jay: split into 3 species, Island Scrub-Jay (*Aphelocoma insularis*), found only on Santa Cruz Island in the Channel Islands; Western Scrub-Jay (*A. californica*), our familiar bird; and Florida Scrub-Jay (*A. coerulescens*).

Gray-breasted Jay: renamed Mexican Jay

Gray-cheeked Thrush: split into 2 species, Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) and Bicknell's Thrush (*C. bicknelli*).

Rufous-sided Towhee: split into 2 species, Spotted Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus*), and Eastern Towhee (*P. erythrophthalmus*).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: split into 2 species, Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*), a regular but uncommon winter visitor to California, and Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*A. caudacutus*).

Northern Oriole: split into 2 species, Bullock's Oriole (*Icterus bullockii*) and Baltimore Oriole (*I. galbula*).

These are the main changes affecting North American birds; there are many others that primarily affect the birds of Middle America. In the months (and years) to come, there will undoubtedly be an abundance of writings discussing the changes and offering hints on how to distinguish the new separate species. (Information thanks to Kimball Garrett.)

GGAS Elections

The Nominating Committee has proposed the following slate of officers. Please vote using the ballot below and mail the ballot to: GGAS, 2530 San Pablo Avenue, Ste. G, Berkeley, CA 94702, by May 1, 1996.

President

_____ Debey Zito, '98

First Vice-President

_____ Alan Hopkins, '97

Recording Secretary

_____ Leslie Lethridge, '97

Corresponding Secretary

_____ Pat Gannon, '97

Treasurer

_____ Kay Loughman, '97

West Bay Director

_____ Janice Andersen, '99

East Bay Director

_____ Michael Larkin, '99

Director-at-Large

_____ Steven Margolin, '98

Panama Committee News

The Panama Committee (PanCom) meets monthly in the East Bay. Our next meeting is Monday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. Please call (510) 652-5854 for meeting location or information about any of the following activities.

Spring Birdathon, April 27

The Panama Committee is pleased to help sponsor the 1996 GGAS Birdathon. See insert in this issue for information.

Panama Featured at May Meeting

The May 9 GGAS monthly meeting in Berkeley features Dan Evans, Executive Director of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, and members of the Panama Committee. See *The Gull* next month for full details.

The Quest for the Resplendent Quetzal

BIRDATHON 1996

Saturday, April 27, 1996

The Resplendent Quetzal, enigmatic emerald jewel of tropical American forests, is our goal for this annual day of birding in the San Francisco Bay Area. The Panama Committee Birding Team will search from dawn to dusk, in every dark, tropical corner of Marin and Alameda counties for this elusive species. They expect to see at least 100 other species while on this quest for the emerald trophy, and invite others to join them in their all-out effort.

Form your own team and help raise funds for the educational and international programs of National Audubon and Golden Gate Audubon in this, the Birdathon Opportunity of the 1996 Spring Season. Ask your friends to sponsor your team or the other teams in finding the Quetzal by pledging funds for each species seen on April 27.

At press time, we have word that the following teams are dedicated to searching the tropical areas of San Francisco and as far as Madera County:

Panama Committee: Miles and Mary Ellen McKey, Corinne Stefanik, Steve and Renee
Margolin, Jean Lukin

San Francisco Quetzalers: Alan Hopkins and friends

Madera Resplendents: Helen and Paul Green, David Rice

Fill out and return the form below to join the fray and support the fearless questers with your tax-deductible donations.

Send this form to: GGAS, 2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite G, Berkeley, CA 94702

___I want to pledge \$ _____ per species for the _____ team

___I want to support the team with the highest species total at \$ _____ per species

___I want to support the team with lowest specials total at \$ _____ per species

___I pledge a total contribution of \$ _____ (check enclosed made payable to GGAS)

___I will lead my own team and gather pledges of at least \$1.00 per species

My team members are: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Lawrence A. Singer

1050 Marina Village Parkway, Suite 102
Alameda, California 94501

510 / 521-8946
FAX 521-3262

ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

Board of Directors
Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.
2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite G
Berkeley, CA 94702

I have reviewed the accompanying balance sheet of Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. as of May 31, 1995 and 1994, and the related statements of support, revenues and expenses, changes in fund balance, and functional expenses for the years then ended, in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. All information included in these financial statements is the representation of the management of Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

A review consists principally of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to financial data. It is substantially less in scope than an examination in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion.

Based on my review, I am not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Alameda, California
December 12, 1995

Lawrence A. Singer

GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC. BALANCE SHEET MAY 31, 1995 AND 1994

(See Accountant's Review Report)

	1995			1994
	UNRESTRICTED FUND	RESTRICTED FUNDS	PROPERTIES FUND	TOTAL
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash	\$13,463			\$7,895
Temporary cash investments	41,261	\$23,207		233,823
Total cash and cash investments	54,724	23,207		241,718
Interest receivable	4,125			1,356
Marketable securities	313,151	128,247		199,894
Accounts receivable				152
Inventories	1,536			1,718
Deposits and prepayments	360			360
Total current assets	373,896	151,454		445,198
Property and equipment, net			\$623	827
Total assets	\$373,896	\$151,454	\$623	\$446,025
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$3,101			\$6,674
Payroll and sales taxes payable	927			190
Funds held on deposit	50			50
Total current liabilities	4,078			6,914
Fund balances:				
Current unrestricted:				
Board discretionary	82,837			80,034
Undesignated	286,981			205,646
Current restricted:				
Sanctuary		\$61,116		57,041
Legal		2,089		10,243
Endowment		54,302		52,464
Covell Education		14,309		13,354
Life membership		4,150		4,150
Revolving fundraising		5,000		5,000
Bayshore		10,253		10,432
Rare bird alert		235		(80)
Properties			\$623	827
Total fund balances	369,818	151,454	623	439,111
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$373,896	\$151,454	\$623	\$446,025

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

	1995			1994	
	UNRESTRICTED FUND	RESTRICTED FUNDS	PROPERTIES FUND	TOTAL	TOTAL
Public Support:					
Direct contributions:					
Gifts and donations	\$32,018	\$1,740	\$33,758	\$217,082	
Bird-a-Thon	2,391		2,391	2,792	
Total direct contributions	34,409	1,740	36,149	219,874	
Indirect contributions:					
Earth Share	6,292		6,292	5,695	
Total public support	40,701	1,740	42,441	225,569	
Other revenues:					
Membership dues	33,183		33,183	26,506	
Newsletter subscriptions	2,097		2,097	2,016	
Program service fees	1,319		1,319	(1,726)	
Merchandise sales (net of direct expenses of \$5,820 in 1995 and \$5,200 in 1994)	4,589		4,589	4,561	
Investment income	12,329	3,275	15,604	9,376	
Loss on sale of investments	(1,303)	(655)	(1,958)	(3,256)	
Fee award from legal action	79,564		79,564		
Other revenues	35		35	368	
Total other revenue	131,813	2,620	134,433	37,845	
Total revenue	172,514	4,360	176,874	263,414	

EXPENSES:

Program services:					
Newsletter	27,019		27,019	25,614	
Field trips and bird studies				34	
Conservation	11,460	11,502	22,962	16,940	
Other educational programs	30,963		31,116	23,724	
Total program services	69,442	11,502	81,097	66,312	
Supporting services:					
Management and general	21,094		21,145	20,397	
Fundraising	1,657		1,657	1,230	
Total supporting services	22,751		22,802	21,627	
Total expenses	92,193	11,502	103,899	87,939	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$80,321	(\$7,142)	\$72,975	\$175,475	

EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES

	FUND BALANCE - MAY 31, 1993	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	NET CHANGES TO FIXED ASSETS	FUND BALANCE - MAY 31, 1994	EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENTS	FUND BALANCE - MAY 31, 1995
Current unrestricted:							
Board discretionary	\$84,243	(1,041)		80,034	(365)	3,168	\$82,837
Undesignated	\$19,653	187,144	(412)	205,646	80,686	649	\$286,981
Current restricted:							
Sanctuary	\$58,296	937		57,041	1,883	2,192	\$61,116
Legal	\$20,144	(9,144)		10,243	(8,911)	757	\$2,089
Endowment	\$55,224	(683)		52,464	(239)	2,077	\$54,302
Covell Education	\$13,650	217		13,354	442	513	\$14,309
Life membership	\$4,150			4,150			\$4,150
Revolving fundraising	\$5,000			5,000			\$5,000
Bayshore	\$12,039	(1,154)		10,432	(632)	453	\$10,253
Rare bird alert	\$300	(380)		(80)	315		\$235
Properties	\$836	(421)	412	827	(204)		\$623

	PROGRAM SERVICES			SUPPORTING SERVICES	
	NEWSLETTER	CONSERVATION	EDUCATIONAL	MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL	FUND RAISING
Grants and allocations		\$1,073	\$11,445	\$12,518	
Salaries and wages			11,700	3,900	
Payroll taxes			1,015	338	
Accounting fees				1,600	
Legal fees		11,927	11,927	2,509	
Supplies		952	46	287	\$87
Telephone		674	1,124	375	
Postage and mailing		3,278	61	232	821
Occupancy	\$9,190		4,953	1,890	
Maintenance and repairs				285	
Printing and publications	17,829	3,347	218	304	678
Conferences and meetings			401	100	71
Conservation support		1,648			
Dues and subscriptions					
Investment management fees					
Insurance		63		221	
Miscellaneous expense					
Depreciation	27,019	22,962	30,963	21,094	1,657
Total functional expenses	\$27,019	\$22,962	\$31,116	\$21,145	\$1,657
Total functional expenses					

	PROGRAM SERVICES			SUPPORTING SERVICES	
	NEWSLETTER	FIELD TRIPS AND STUDIES	CONSERVATION	EDUCATIONAL	MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL
Grants and allocations			\$7,050	\$4,335	\$11,385
Salaries and wages				11,644	\$3,881
Payroll taxes				1,110	370
Accounting fees					2,100
Legal fees			8,912	8,912	1,927
Supplies			22	128	887
Telephone			359	625	740
Postage and mailing	\$8,899	\$34	83	523	1,474
Occupancy				4,279	1,426
Maintenance and repairs			59	46	157
Printing and publications	16,607			16,712	949
Conferences and meetings				740	27
Conservation support			375	375	
Dues and subscriptions			65	65	
Investment management fees					5,354
Insurance					735
Miscellaneous expense			15		265
Depreciation	25,614	34	16,940	23,408	20,292
Total functional expenses	\$25,614	\$34	\$16,940	\$23,724	\$20,397
Total functional expenses					

NOTE 5 — MARKETABLE SECURITIES

Marketable securities held by the Society consist of common stocks of publicly traded corporations, corporate bonds, US Government securities and are carried at lower of aggregate cost or market. At May 31, 1995 and 1994, investments held were as follows:

	1995		1994	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
Corporate stocks	\$237,266	\$273,437	\$106,780	\$110,550
Corporate Bonds	74,132	76,582	53,013	43,219
US Government Securities	130,000	130,544	50,000	46,125
Total Marketable Securities	\$441,398	\$480,563	\$209,793	\$199,894

NOTE 6 — PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

At May 31, 1995 and 1994, depreciable assets, at cost, consisted of the following:

	1995	1994
Office equipment	\$20,538	\$20,538
Furniture and fixtures	658	658
Other equipment	380	380
Total property and equipment	21,576	21,576
Less: accumulated depreciation	20,953	20,749
Net property and equipment	\$623	\$827

Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment was \$204 and \$421 for the years ended May 31, 1995 and 1994 respectively.

NOTE 7 — LEASES

The Society leases its office under a month-to-month operating lease. Total rental expense under this lease amounted to \$5,670 in 1995 and 1994.

NOTE 8 — LOBBYING EXPENSE

In furtherance of the exempt purpose of protecting wildlife habitats, the Society contributes to the funding of National Audubon Society's California Legislative Affairs Director. In addition, the Society publishes information regarding pending legislation in its monthly newsletter, provides testimony to legislative bodies, and contributes to campaigns in support of or opposition to ballot initiatives related to wildlife and wildlife habitats. The total amount of expenditures for direct lobbying and grass roots communications was \$3,865 in 1995 and \$7,649 in 1994.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

Sanctuary Fund is to be used for land acquisition and for improving wildlife habitats. The fund was created by a \$75,000 gift from the Makower Estate for land acquisitions, \$50,000 of which remains.

Legal Fund consists of all funds raised specifically for litigation costs or restricted by the donor for that specific purpose. Expenditures from the Legal Fund are authorized by the Board of Directors and may be used for direct litigation engaged in by the Society or grants supporting legal actions of other public charities.

Endowment Fund holds the principal of all money given to the Society which has been restricted by the donor. Such money may be invested or reinvested, unless otherwise restricted, with the interest earned used for general operating expenses.

Covell Education Fund is restricted to expenditures for schools and public education.

Life Membership Fund consists of dues collected from members in return for a lifetime subscription to the Society's newsletter.

Revolving Fundraising Fund provides resources for fund raising projects. Income and principal may be used for projects. For each project, fund principal is reimbursed from project income for all costs expended.

Bayshore Fund represents gifts from or in honor to Elsie Roemer and monies received from a settlement of Harbor Bay Isle ferry litigation. This fund is earmarked for protection of nesting habitats at the Oakland Airport and for specific research projects.

Rare Bird Alert Fund consists of specific gifts to fund a telephone information line concerning uncommon birds and their habitats.

NOTE 4 — TEMPORARY CASH INVESTMENTS

Cash not immediately required for current operations is invested in money market funds and certificates of deposit which earn interest at varying rates. Interest earned on these investments was \$4,237 in 1995 and \$1,575 in 1994.

NOTE 1 — DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION

The Society is a membership organization engaged in conservation, public education and research activities focusing on birds, other wildlife, and wildlife habitats. The Society is an authorized chapter of the National Audubon Society.

NOTE 2 — SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Temporary cash investments are stated at cost.
Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market under the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method.
Property and equipment purchased by the Society are carried at cost. Depreciation and amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives ranging from five to ten years.

Income Taxes. The Society qualifies under the not-for-profit provisions of the Internal Revenue Code and the California Revenue and Taxation Code which exempts the organization from income taxes. Accordingly, no provision has been made for income taxes.

NOTE 3 — FUND ACCOUNTING

The Society's accounts are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting, a procedure by which resources for various purposes are classified for accounting and reporting purposes into funds established according to their nature and purpose. Separate accounts are maintained for each fund. The assets, liabilities, and fund balances of the Society are reported in eleven funds as follows:

UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

General Operating Fund receives all income from general operations and donations not specifically allocated to other funds. Funds are used for the Society's daily operation.

Discretionary Fund is a reserve of the Society's general fund balance. The fund principal may be expended if authorized by a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors at two consecutive meetings.

Properties Fund is used to accumulate the Society's net investment in fixed assets.

Field Trips Calendar

Sunday, March 31

Bodega Bay

Meet at 9 a.m. at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and East Shore Rd. in Bodega Bay. Bring lunch. Leader: Nancy Conzett (707) 875-2231.

Sunday, April 7 (Easter)

Point Reyes National Seashore

Meet at 8 a.m. (Daylight Saving Time) at the Bovine Bakery on Rt. 1 in downtown Point Reyes Station, two miles north of Olema. Leaders: Lina Jane Prairie and Neil Whitehouse (510) 235-2902.

For details on the above trips, see *The Gull* for March.

Wednesday, April 10

Mini-trip to Sunol Regional Park

Meet at 9 a.m. at the Ranger Station parking lot inside the park. Take Hwy. 680 south to about 8 miles beyond the intersection of Hwy 580. Turn off at Calaveras Rd.; go left and follow the signs to Sunol Regional Park. We may see Lark Sparrows, Golden Eagles, and Bullock's Orioles plus resident birds of the area. Bring lunch. Rain cancels. Leaders: Anna Wilcox (510) 351-9301 and Jean-Marie Spoelman. \$ (*)

Sunday, April 14

Bothe-Napa Valley State Park

Meet at 9 a.m. in the parking lot. This is a particularly beautiful park in the spring, with migrating warblers and vireos, Winter Wrens and, if we're lucky - Pileated Woodpeckers (several last year). We will walk about four to five miles and bird mostly by ear.

From the East Bay: drive north on I-80 beyond Vallejo and take the Napa exit. Follow Hwy. 29 to St. Helena. The entrance to the park is on the left just beyond the Ole Bale Mill north of St. Helena. From the West Bay: take Hwy. 101 north to Hwy. 37 near Novato; go east to the junction with Hwy. 121; turn left and continue on 121 until it joins Hwy. 29 near Napa, then continue north on 29 to the park.

Beginners welcome. Bring lunch and liquids. Rain cancels trip. Please carpool if possible. Leader: Peter Allen (415) 892-8063.

Saturday, April 20

Mines Rd. Livermore

Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot of the Nob Hill Shopping Center. Take I-580 east and turn right on No. Livermore Exit. Continue south two miles to the Nob Hill Shopping Center at So. Livermore and Pacific in Livermore. From there we will caravan on mountain roads to Patterson.

We can expect to see Bullock's Orioles, Lewis' Woodpeckers, and Phainopeplas in this habitat. Golden Eagles, Roadrunners,

and Wild Turkeys have also been seen on this trip. Bring food and liquids. Those who want to are invited to continue with the group until dark. Leader: George Bing (510) 443-5868.

Saturday, April 20

Point Reyes National Seashore

Eighth Annual all-day Spring Birding Blitz. (Joint activity: GGAS/Nat. Park Service) meet at 8 a.m. at Five Brooks Trail-head parking lot, approximately 3.5 miles south of Olema on the west side of Hwy. 1. We will bird Five Brooks Pond area, Limantour Spit, Drakes Beach, Chimney Rock and Point Reyes, ending at Bear Valley, for a multi-habitat trip. Bring water, food, and layer clothes for variable weather. Leaders: Leon Abrams (415) 453-9980 (work), (510) 843-4107 (home), and Cathy Purchis (510) 865-9482

Sunday, April 21

Briones Regional Park

For this half-day trip, meet at 9 a.m. at the west entrance to Briones Regional Park, off Bear Creek Rd.. Meet in the parking area on the left, just beyond the fee booth.

Directions: Take Hwy. 24 and exit on the Orinda turnoff. Turn left and go back under the freeway on Camino Pablo. Continue northwest about two miles to Bear Creek Rd. Turn right and go about 4.5 miles to Briones Regional Park entrance on the right (just beyond Happy Valley Rd.). or, from Berkeley area, cross through Tilden Regional Park on Wildcat Canyon Rd. and continue beyond Inspiration Point. Cross San Pablo Dam Rd. onto Bear Creek Rd. 4.5 miles to the park.

We will be looking for resident birds and early migrants. Leader: David George (510) 339-0765. \$ (*)

Saturday, May 4

Sunol Regional Park

Meet at 8:30 a.m. inside the park entrance at the parking lot on the left. Take I-680 south, turn off at Calaveras Rd. (the freeway sign is marked: Calaveras Rd., Dumbarton Bridge, Calif. 84). Go south (left) and follow the signs to Sunol Regional Park, about five miles. Bring lunch and liquids in preparation for a four to five mile walk. We expect to see a variety of the common breeding birds, including flycatchers, swallows, vireos and warblers. This trip is also good for wildflowers. Heavy rain cancels. Leaders: Gloria Markowitz and Ken Ackerman (415) 892-2910. \$ (*)

Sunday, May 12

Briones Regional Park - Birding By Ear

Meet at 8 a.m. at the west entrance to Briones Regional Park off Bear Creek Rd. Meet in the parking area on the left, just beyond the fee booth.

Directions: see field trip above scheduled for Briones Regional Park on Sunday, April 21.

Be prepared to hike five miles through hilly terrain. Bring lunch and liquids, and a hat or sunscreen. We will study the songs and calls of common breeding birds of the East Bay. Leader: Dave Cornman. (510) 825-2106. \$ (*)

Sunday, May 5

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park

Meet at 8 a.m. by the Arlington Clubhouse on Arlington Blvd. (next to the tennis courts between Brewster Dr. and Thors Bay Rd.) in El Cerrito. From there we will make a short drive to the trailhead on Rifle Range Rd. We will encounter hills as we walk a transect of the canyon to bird in brushlands, oak woodlands, riparian streamsides, and grasslands. We anticipate seeing a few late migrants, and a good representation of nesting birds including Grasshopper Sparrows and Lazuli Buntings. We will also identify common trees of the area. People with allergies should be aware that we will encounter grassy conditions. Bring lunch and liquids for a six mile hike. The trip will end at 2 p.m. Leader: Malcolm Sproul (510) 376-8945.

Wednesday, May 8

Mini-trip to Briones Regional Park

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the west entrance to Briones Regional Park off Bear Creek Rd. Meet in the parking area on the left just beyond the fee booth. Directions: see field trip above scheduled for Briones Regional Park on Sunday, April 21. We should see Bullock's Orioles, Lark Sparrows, Ash-throated Flycatchers and Lazuli Buntings. Leaders: Anna Wilcox (510) 351-9301, and Jean-Marie Spoelman.

Saturday, May 11

Leona Heights Open Space, Oakland (not to be confused with Leona Heights Park)

Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot. Take I-580 south about 1.5 miles beyond the junction with Warren Frwy. (Hwy. 13) to the Keller exit. Go east (uphill) on Keller .8 miles, passing a yellow-with-white-trim shopping complex on the right. Turn left onto Campus Drive, then a quick right onto Canyon Oaks Dr. (This seems like turning into a private parking lot for the Ridgmont Condominium

Complex.) Once inside the parking lot, go left to the end, and you'll find the small East Bay Regional Parks District parking area.

We will be hiking a riparian habitat in a woodland canyon, and will return to the parking lot on the same trail. Those who wish to extend the hike in pursuit of a Rufous-crowned Sparrow should bring a lunch. Leader: Rusty Scalf (510) 523-7108. (*)

Saturday, May 18

Bouverie Audubon Preserve (near Glen Ellen).

This 400-acre preserve is known for its flowering plants (over 350 species) as well as 100 bird species.

This trip is by reservation only. Reservations must be received (mail or telephone) by May 10th at the GGAS office: 2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite G, Berkeley, CA 94702, (510) 843-2222

Directions and information about meeting time and place will be mailed to participants.

Plan Ahead:

Friday - Sunday, May 31-June 2 **Yosemite National Park**

Birding by Ear. Leader: Dave Cornman. (510) 825-2106

Saturday-Sunday, June 15-16 **Yuba Pass**

Leader: Peter Allen. (415) 892-8063

Friday-Sunday, June 28-30 **Lassen Volcanic National Park.**

Leaders: Dan and Joan Murphy. (415) 564-0074

For details on above trips - see future issues of *The Gull*.

Trips marked with \$ go to parks or other sites that require an entrance fee.

Carpooling arrangements will be attempted for trips marked (*). See Below.

Problems: If you need a ride or can take a passenger, or if you need information and have difficulty reaching a field trip leader, call Russ Wilson, Field Trips Committee Chair (510) 524-2399.

Help Wanted: Field Trip Coordinator

We're still looking for a volunteer to take over the job that Russ Wilson is vacating by the end of the coming summer, or sooner if a replacement is found. The job requires someone to contact field trip leaders, schedule field trips and write them up for *The Gull*... and, when possible, recruit new leaders and develop new trips. Fortunately, GGAS has many faithful leaders who can usually be depended upon to repeat favorite trips, thereby simplifying the coordinator's work.

The position doesn't require a knowledge of birds. It merely requires someone who is willing to devote a few hours near the end of each month to prepare a field trip schedule - a vital function of our organization. Team up with a friend or go it alone. Russ has been doing it for nearly nine years, and has offered to work with his successor during the coming months -- and will continue to help, if called upon, after being replaced.

Call Russ Wilson, (510) 524-2399; he'll be glad to answer your questions.

WATERSHED

a celebration of writers, nature and community

Saturday, April 6
all afternoon

Bandshell
Golden Gate Park
San Francisco

a day of poetry, music and art

organized by U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Hass



April Meeting: Traveling to Galapagos
A Personal Journey to a Biological Treasure
Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley
Thursday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.

The Galapagos Islands, a unique archipelago consisting of 16 main islands and 43 smaller ones, are 600 miles due west of mainland Ecuador and represent, to many, a living laboratory of evolutionary biology. Tales of flightless cormorants, giant terrestrial tortoises, each unique to its own



island, abundant seabird nesting colonies (Red-footed, Blue-footed and Masked boobies, Swallow-tailed Gulls, Waved Albatross, Magnificent Frigatebirds) and glorious equatorial sunshine have attracted nature enthusiasts from around the world. And so it was with Barbara and Don Rivenes, long-time Golden Gate Audubon members, when they visited Galapagos National Park last April.

They will be showing their video, sharing their experience in this fragile ecosystem which still teems with life, and perhaps including a discussion about the impact of the largest terrestrial predator - man - on what Charles Darwin, in 1831, referred to as "a little world within itself."

This will also be an opportunity for those interested in travelling to Galapagos and Ecuador with GGAS in November, 1996, or anytime in the future, to see what all the fuss is about.

Please join Barbara and Don -- we will provide the popcorn!

ROSTER

President Janice Andersen, '96
First Vice President Debey Zito, '96
Recording Secretary Leslie Lethridge, '96
Corresponding Secretary Pat Gannon, '96
Treasurer Kay Loughman, '96
West Bay Directors Alan Hopkins, '96
Donna Lion, '97
Hugh Cotter, '98
East Bay Directors Michael Larkin, '96
Leora Feeney, '97
Carolyn Kolka, '98
Director-at-Large Steven Margolin, '96

Standing Committee Chairs

Education: Debey Zito (415) 648-6861
Field Trips: Russ Wilson (510) 524-2399
Finance: Steven Margolin (510) 654-6295
Conservation: (510) 843-2222
Development:
Hospitality:
Membership: Barbara Rivenes (415) 388-4552
Program: Terry Schmidt (415) 282-0261
Publicity: Carol Hanson
GULL Editor: Ann Dewart (510) 763-3010
Observations: Hugh Cotter (415) 752-6776
Librarian: Janet Wessel (510) 939-2499
Program Coordinator/Office Manager: Arthur Feinstein (510) 843-2222

Northern California Bird Box
(510) 524-5592

continued from page 30

restraint or destruction of those who prey upon them, while simple justice requires that the cat should be subjected to the same measures as those governing dogs. A license tag identifies a pet animal, protects it, and gives it a status under the law. If we want pets, let us take care

of them and let us see that neither they nor their progeny become a menace to the comfort or welfare of our neighbors or of our friends, the birds, who spend most of their waking hours consuming noxious pests that otherwise would overwhelm our fields, trees and flowers.

A. S. Kibbe

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

As a member of National Audubon Society, you are automatically enrolled in the local chapter, Golden Gate Audubon Society. Chapter benefits include receipt of *The Gull*, access to field trips and programs, and the opportunity to volunteer. Call the office if you have any questions.

Golden Gate Audubon Society
2530 San Pablo Ave., Ste. G
Berkeley, California 94702
Return postage guaranteed

4/97
**CALIFORNIA ACADEMY
OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94118**



TIME VALUE

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oakland, CA
Permit No. 1702

Published each month except August by the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Special third-class postage paid in Oakland, CA.

Send address changes to office promptly. Post Office does not forward *The Gull*. Monthly meeting: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership, local and national, \$30 per year (\$20 per year new members) includes *Audubon Magazine* and *The Gull*. Renewals should be sent directly to National Audubon office. Subscriptions to *The Gull* separately \$10 per year; single issues \$1.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc., was established January 15, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948. *The Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month and July 15th for September issue.

The Gull -- ISSN 0164-971X

Golden Gate Audubon Society
2530 San Pablo Avenue
Suite G
Berkeley, California 94702
Phone: (510) 843-2222
Fax: (510) 843-5351

Office Hours:
Tues.- Fri. 9-12, 1-4
(please call first)